

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 RANGOO 04070 160646Z
ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO USDOC WASHDC
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UNCLAS RANGOON 4070

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BBAK, BDIS, BM
SUBJ: GUB CLAIM FOR UNPAID BILL OF U.S. TRAVEL AGENCY

1. GUB HOTEL AND TOURIST CORPORATION HAS REQUESTED THE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN CONTACTING OR DETERMINING THE PRESENT STATUS OF: WORLD TRAVEL ASSOCIATES INC. 219 PALERMO AVE. CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33134

2. THE HOTEL AND TOURIST CORPORATION CLAIMS THIS FIRM HAS HAD AN OUTSTANDING BILL WITH IT OF \$1822.11 SINCE NOVEMBER 1975. THE AMOUNT DUE IS FOR TOUR SERVICES AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A GROUP OF 14 PERSONS WHICH VISITED BURMA IN NOVEMBER 1975 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE WORLD TRAVEL ASSOCIATES AND FOR WHICH THAT TRAVEL AGENCY AGREED TO REIMBURSE THE HOTEL AND TOURIST CORP.

3. HOTEL AND TOURIST CORP. OFFICIALS CLAIM THEY HAVE HAD NO RESPONSE TO THEIR REPEATED REQUESTS FOR PAYMENT AND THEY FEAR THE U.S. FIRM MAY HAVE BEEN DISSOLVED OR FILED FOR BANKRUPTCY. THEY HAVE REQUESTED THE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE FIRM AND WHERE AND WITH WHOM THEY SHOULD FILE THEIR CLAIM FOR PAYMENT.

4. ALTHOUGH THE AMOUNT INVOLVED IS SMALL, THE HOTEL AND TOURIST CORP., BEING A STATE ENTERPRISE, MUST MAKE A RIGID ACCOUNTING OF ALL TRANSACTIONS AND FAILURE TO COLLECT ON SUCH A DEBT COULD CAUSE THE GUB TO ORDER MORE INFLEXIBLE BUREAUCRATIC PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH FOREIGN TRAVEL AGENCIES. THIS COULD RESULT IN GREATER RED TAPE AND EXPENSE FOR U.S. TRAVEL AGENCIES SPONSORING
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TOUR GROUPS TO BURMA. THEREFORE, THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT IF

POSSIBLE INFORMATION BE PROVIDED ON THE STATUS OF WORLD TRAVEL
ASSOCIATES, INC. AND HOW THE HOTEL AND TOURIST CORP. SHOULD PRESENT
ITS CLAIM FOR PAYMENT.
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